



Little River Currents

MEGWAA EZHIWEBAAK

LRBOI Natural Resources River Otter Research Project



The 2003-2004 river otter trapping season marked the second year of the Tribe's authority to seal and export legally harvested river otters with CITES (Convention in International Trade in Endangered Species) tags. Certain species of animals are subject to some levels of illegal trade in the world. The CITES tags are seals used on legally harvested animals to ensure that the annual harvest of animals from certain populations is not detrimental to their survival.

River Otter, continued page 12

Michigan Tribes unite to say NO to proposed Racino bill

Several Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Tribal Councilors, the Ogema and Tribal members attended press conferences in Traverse City and the State Capitol in Lansing on March 23, 2004.

Forming a common bond with other Tribal governments, Tribal members and non-tribal citizens from communities statewide who benefit from 2% payments, Tribal Leaders uniformly said NO to proposed legislation before the Michigan State House. Bills #4609-4611 would allow horse racing tracks to put Video Lottery Terminals, which work like slot machines, in their establishments. This could consequently reek economic havoc among Michigan's Native American people.

Senator Jason Allen (R) is planning to push the legislation

through, to the dismay of many in Northern Michigan who care about the permanent loss of jobs the bills will create. The results of recent surveys reveal that over 2,000 jobs could be lost, never returning to Northern Michigan, including the Upper Peninsula.

Tribal leaders are encouraging all people to contact State Senators and other policy makers to help stop this potentially devastating bill that



Michigan's tribal leaders talk after the Lansing press conference

NO Racinos, continued page 23

Gdoshkwaanagana Reservation Regional Workshops

On November 8-9, 2003, twenty five Tribal members came together at the Manistee National Inn & Resort for a two day Gdoshkwaanagana Education Workshop. This Workshop was a pilot for a Regional Education Workshop developed to help us gain a common understanding of the history of our Reservation, jurisdiction within our Reservation and our course of action to reaffirm our reservation. Attending the pilot Workshop were representatives from the Tribal Community, Tribal Council, Commissions, Committees and Government Departments. A one day Workshop will be delivered on Saturdays between May and August at locations near Northern Wisconsin/Upper Peninsula, Milwaukee, Grand Rapids, Muskegon, Custer and Manistee.



From left: Chelsea Bromley, Jessica Burger, Mark Dougher, Cornelius DeVerney and Harold Battice, Jr.

Detailed scheduling information will be available to Tribal members through this newspaper and at the April Tribal Membership meeting.

In 2002, the Tribal Ogema and Tribal Council began a project to develop legal and political strategies to restore the recognition of our Reservation boundaries – which is a portion of our homeland - which our ancestors negotiated to retain in the 1836 Treaty of Washington and the 1855 Treaty of Detroit. At the Workshop we studied, in depth, the intent and actions of our Ancestors who negotiated these treaties and we all came to a deeper understanding of their two (2) major objectives, which we as Tribal leaders and members must honor:

First, was the protection of a permanent homeland for the Ottawa people by negotiating to retain or "reserve" lands which are traditional Ottawa homelands, subject to Ottawa laws and governed by the Ottawa people. Second, our ancestors sought to preserve their status as distinct formal governments – to preserve our sovereignty. We viewed copies of actual documents, reports and letters from 1836 through the 20th century that revealed how our ancestors lost title to more than 90% of the land within our Reservation as a result of fraud by lumber companies, land speculators, and their agents.

Gdoshkwaanagana Reservation Regional Workshops, continued page 23, extra photo page 23



Outlook from the Ogema

Boozhoo,

April 17, 2004 is the date of the Spring Membership meeting. We will be presenting information from the various Tribal departments to the Membership. I will also be providing members with an update on recent events that have had an impact on the Tribe.

The Land Use Plan is a critical component of the Reservation Restoration Plan. You can get more details and find out the starting time at the Membership meeting.

The Reservation Restoration Plan and discussion about future expansion will be held for the membership on:

- April 24th at the Lac Vieux Desert Casino Resort in Watersmeet, MI from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

- May 1st at the Great Spirit Catholic Church, 1050 West Lapham, Milwaukee, Wisconsin from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

The May 22nd Grand Rapids, June 5th Muskegon, and June 19th, Custer/Manistee locations and times will be announced in the next issue of Little River Currents.

The Tribal Council and my office have been working hard to address the issue of "Racino's". We participated in two press conferences both on March 23, one at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City, Michigan; the other at the Michigan State Capitol Building, Lansing, Michigan. Invited were local and statewide newspapers and television stations. Also there were over a dozen radio interviews conducted on the Racino Issue.

I am encouraging you to follow through on the letter that was recently sent to you from the Tribe regarding the Racino issue and mail it back soon. Currently, the State Legislature plans on addressing the bill towards the end of April.

The Tribe is also hosting a Forum on Sustainable Development and Alternative Energy at the Little River Casino Resort on April 24th and 25th. There will be a Tour of the Sequential Batch Reactor, Waste Water Treatment Plant and Wind Turbine at the Tribal Housing Development.

I hope you can take advantage of the opportunity to attend these gatherings.

Lee



In Commemoration of Earth Day 2004

Sustainable Development and Alternative Energy Fair

April 24th and April 25th, 2004

at the Little River Casino Resort

Manistee, Michigan Corner of M-22 and US-31

INFORMATION
BOOTHS

SPEAKERS

VIDEOS

DEMONSTRATIONS
AND MORE!



Sponsors: Aurora Association, Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Citizens for Responsible Development, SEEDS, and other fine folks.

Attention Potential Vendors: If you are interested in securing a Vendors Booth please contact Dan Shepard at 1-888-723-8288, Thank You.

April 24th Events

Open 10:00 am

- Information and Demonstration Booths
- Speakers
MI State Representative
David Palsrok @ 3:00 pm
- Tour of the LRBOI Wind Turbine and Sequential Batch Reactor
Waste Water Treatment Plant

Close 4:00 pm


April 25th Events

Open 10:00 am

- Information and Demonstration Booths
- Environmental Videos
10:00 am to 2:30 pm
- Regional Action Plan Round Table Discussion
3:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Close 6:00 pm





The Great Seal of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians was designed by Jay Sam of Manistee, Michigan and adopted for use by the LRBOI Tribal Council.

There is great meaning in the seal for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. The central feature is a river, not any one in particular. The bands of people that are now known as the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians used all of the rivers in western Lower Michigan. Our people were riverine in nature and the valleys and land surrounding the river symbolize the fertility and wealth of resources found along the rivers. Where the sky meets the water the lands close a little to indicate the Great Lakes that were important to our people too. The pine tree on the side of the design represents peace and prosperity. Two eagles fly near the tree, a pair to represent balance and eagles because they carry prayer to the Creator. A medicine wheel, or sacred circle, surrounds the seal with the four directions and colors used by the Anishinaabek. The earth enters the east to show we will always seek and be ready to begin anew as the day does. And finally, nine feathers hang from the circle to represent the nine Ogemuk, or chiefs, that today's members of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians trace their heritage to.

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Little River Currents is published monthly by the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians. Currents welcomes all Letters to the Editor and other tribal member submissions but does not guarantee placement nor do published submissions necessarily reflect the views of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

Submission Guidelines: Artwork, photos, and poetry will be sent back to you if you send it with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to return it in. Please include your full name, Tribal identification number and current mailing address with all submissions. If submissions are sent on behalf of a child who is a descendent of a tribal member, please include the parent or guardian tribal identification number. If sending photos or artwork please include a description of the subject as well.

SUBMISSIONS and DEDICATIONS must be received 30 days in advance of publication.

Currents is distributed free to all LRBOI Tribal citizens by mail and to Tribal employees at select locations. Subscriptions are available at a yearly rate of \$17.00. For Elders age 55 or more subscription rates are \$12.00 in the United States. Foreign rates are based on shipping and handling expenses. Bulk copies of Currents are available to share with others: 10 copies for \$5.00 or 25 copies for \$15.00. Bulk copies are mailed to one address. Please call for pricing on 25 or more copies.

Little River Currents is located at 375 River Street, Manistee, MI 49660. For assistance please contact the Currents office at currents@lrboi.com or call Melissa Zelenak at 1-231-723-8288.

2004 Spring Membership Meeting

Saturday April 17, 2004

**Three Fires Conference Center at the
Little River Casino & Resort**

Registration:	9:00 am
Information Booths:	10:00 am
Tour of SBR Plant	11:00 am
Potluck Luncheon:	12:00 pm
Meeting Begins:	1:00 pm

This is a Potluck Luncheon, meat and non-alcoholic beverages are provided by the Tribe. Please remember to bring your favorite dish to share with others.

Megwetch and see you there!

"Tribal Citizen Input for the Land Use Plan"

**Your input for the Tribal Land Use plan is important.
This document will go to Tribal Council for approval of adoption.**

April 17th 2004-Public Meeting #4-Final presentation of the Land Use plan will start at 10:00am in the main conference room at the *Little River Casino Resort, Three Fires Conference Center* located at **2700 Orchard Highway, Manistee, Michigan.**

If you have questions or require additional information please call the Planning Department, Dan Shepard, Strategic Planning Coordinator 1-888-723-8288 or 1-231-398-6810 or email: dshepard@lrboi.com. Megwetch



**Savings on S.S Badger
for LRBOI Tribal Members**
800-841-4243

The continued opportunity is available to Tribal Members to take advantage of a 20% discount on S.S. Badger fares in 2004. The Michigan car ferry has a dock location in Ludington, MI and Manitowoc, WI.

The Tribe's Travel Department has made arrangements with the S.S. Badger to run a program with the 20% discount on all vehicle and passenger fares traveling on the Ludington, MI. 7:55 PM departure and on the 12:30 AM departure from Manitowoc, WI. This rate is only available on evening fares. If you travel one-way, you will receive a 10% discount. If you travel one-way on the midnight trip from Manitowoc, WI, you will receive a 40% discount.

These savings begin May 16, 2004 thru October 12, 2004. Beginning September 3, 2004 thru October 12, 2004, the 20% discount will be available for any departure.



April 2004 Entertainment Calendar of Events

Call 1-888-568-2244 for more information or room reservations.

Weekend Entertainment at the Grove

April 2 & 3 9p-1a Lanise Kirk

April 9 & 20 9p-1a Lou Thunder & the Rainmakers

April 16 9p-1a Rock Supply

April 17 9a-1p Backstage

April 23 & 24 9a-1p Dominic Fortuna

April 30/May 1 9p-1a Risque

Polka Monday: Noon-4pm

April 5 Andy Nester Orchestra

April 12 Ken Hawkins Polka Band

April 19 Virgil Baker's Just 4 Fun Band

April 26 Rodney Beyer & His Polka Pals

Two-Step Tuesday: Noon-4pm

April 6 Andy Nester Orchestra

April 13 Ken Hawkins Polka Band

April 20 Virgil Baker's Just 4 Fun Band

April 27 Rodney Beyer & His Polka Pals



Little Sisters

By Angela Carter

Little sisters are fun.

Little sisters are caring.

Little sisters can be a little daring.

Little sisters are pesty.

Little sisters are cool.

Little sisters follow you wherever you go.

Little sisters copy you from head to toe.

My little sister can be just like my mother when she tells me what to do.

Little sisters come in all shapes and sizes, and you should love them for who they are.

I love my little sister.

I hope you love yours too!

This poem was written by Angela Carter and has been accepted for publication by the Anthology of Poetry. Congratulations we are proud of you!

Love, Mom & Autumn

Regional Workshops, Continued from front page

Dr. McClurken, our Tribal Ethnohistorian, delivered a riveting presentation covering the Ottawa Reservation history from the treaty era through modern day. It was a very challenging and sad day for us to learn, in detail, the means by which our Reservation lands were lost, and in many cases, stolen from Ancestors. Yet at the same time, we were strengthened to see how diligently the Michigan Odawa leaders consistently fought to retain their people's sacred and traditional homelands here in the territories now called State of Michigan and how our leaders fought to ensure that we retained Reservations within our traditional territories. We came to understand why there were two separate Reservation areas in different places (the Manistee Reservation and Mason County Reservation) for our people and how title to those lands was taken from us.

Ms. Fran Ayer, Esq., the Tribal Attorney specially retained for this effort, addressed our Tribal Sovereignty and jurisdiction within our Reservation. We discussed the laws affecting reservations and how Tribal sovereignty has been under constant assault through the courts, especially over the past 25 years. It was clear to everyone at the Workshop that we must always recognize, as did our past generations of leaders, that our continued existence as a sovereign depends upon our ability to protect our territorial Sovereignty –

Gdoshkwaanagana - our Reservation. Our continued right to govern ourselves by our own laws, our own government, our ability to preserve our language, our culture and our ability to promote economic independence, which includes commercial fishing, our casino and other economic ventures and traditional and cultural rights – can only happen if we protect our Reservation.

Protecting our Reservation will require us to take steps to reaffirm and restore our Reservation boundaries. Accomplishing these goals, and reversing the frauds and other wrongful acts that resulted in the loss of the lands within our Reservations will require us to move forward with a long-term Course of Action.

In order to move forward with any Course of Action, we hope to use these Workshops to bring the same information concerning the history of our Reservations and the legal principles that impact Tribal Sovereignty and jurisdiction within our Reservations to as many Tribal Members as possible. These Workshops are the forum for us to learn together and have an informed dialogue about our future Course of Action, grounded on an understanding of our past. The Workshops are voluntary and sign up information will be announced in the Little River Currents newspaper and at our April Membership Meeting.

Submitted by the Office of the Tribal Ogema

Commodity News

The Commodity Department got a CONGRATULATIONS. This is the letter we received:

CONGRATULATIONS

This is to announce that the MIDWEST REGION is the FIRST region to complete the AIS Character WIN-DOWS CONVERSION !!!!!



Thanks to all 23 Programs, Staff and IT Departments who helped in getting new equipment, bring up networks, and implementing the conversion program.

Thanks again for your efforts

Mr. Joe Templin

UADS-FNS– MWRO

The Commodity Department would like to say:

Thanks to the Maintenance Department for keeping the driveway cleared of snow for commodity clients food pick-up, and the delivery shipments.

Thanks a Big Bunch!

13 Counties Served:

Benzie	Mecosta
Lake	Leelanau
Manistee	Mason
Muskegon	Newaygo
Oceana	Ottawa
Wexford	Osecola
Grand Traverse	



The Commodity Department now has a new walk-in cooler. The next step is to receive fresh produce for clients in the near future.

Broccoli Raisin Salad

- 1 bunch broccoli, washed, cut into florets
 - 1 pound bacon, cooked and crumbled
 - 1 cup raisins
 - 1/2 cup plain yogurt
 - 1/2 cup mayonnaise
 - 2 tablespoons vinegar
 - 1/2 cup sugar
1. Mix first three ingredients in a large bowl.
 2. Combine (in small bowl) remaining ingredients.
 3. Mix yogurt mixture into broccoli mixture

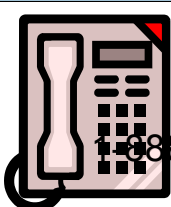
Chill and serve cold

Oatmeal

Applesauce Cookies

- 1 cup flour
 - 1 teaspoon baking powder
 - 1 teaspoon allspice or cinnamon
 - 1/4 teaspoon salt
 - 1/2 cup margarine
 - 1/2 cup sugar
 - 2 eggs
 - 2 cups oatmeal
 - 1 cup applesauce
 - 1/2 cup raisins
1. Heat oven to 350 degrees F.
 2. Combine flour, baking powder, spice and salt; set aside.
 3. Beat margarine and sugar until creamy.
 4. Add eggs and beat well; add dry ingredients and mix well.
 5. Stir in oatmeal, applesauce and raisins; mix well. Drop dough by the tablespoonful onto greased baking sheet.
 6. Bake 11 minutes or until edges are lightly browned. Remove from sheet and cool on rack.

Makes 24 cookies



For information about the Commodities Department Please Call:

1-888-723-8288, 1-231-398-6715 or 1-231-398-6716

Recall Conclusion and Decision

The Election Board has concluded its verification procedures for the 2003 recall petitions filed against five Tribal Councilors. The following table summarizes the results of the signature entry verification process for the petitions:

The burden for satisfying the constitutional requirements of sufficiency for a recall petition rests upon the Petitioners. In this instance, the Petitioners have not carried their burden of securing the minimum number of signatures required for validation of a recall petition against any Councilor subject to the recall. Accordingly, the Board finds the petitions insufficient as a matter of law and ORDERS that this recall process is CONCLUDED.

Because of the Board’s decision regarding the insufficiency of the number of signatures required for a valid recall petition, the Board has not computed the numbers of verified signatures of registered voters from the voting districts of the Tribal Councilors who were subject to recall.

Additionally, since an insufficient number of signatures were verified to validate the recall petitions, the Board determines that a Board review of the Councilor challenges is unnecessary to the petition validation process. However, since several of the Councilors’ challenges raise issues of potential improprieties in the collection of signatures and Circulator certification, the Board will be reviewing the alleged improprieties in a separate proceeding and by separate decision.

	Councilor Kleeman	Councilor Ruiter	Councilor McCatty	Gi’gido’o Parsons	Councilor Medahko
Signatures Claimed Submitted	405	408	407	399	423
Signatures Verified	335	335	328	334	344
Signatures Required	383	383	383	383	383
Shortfall	(48)	(48)	(55)	(49)	(39)

The Survivor’s Psalm

I have been victimized
I was in a fight that was
not a fair fight.
I did not ask for the fight. I lost.
There is no shame in losing such
fights, only in winning.
I have reached the stage of survivor,
And am no longer a slave
of victim status.
I look back with sadness
rather than hate.
I look forward with hope
rather than despair.
I may never forget,
but I need not
constantly remember.
I WAS a victim.
I AM a survivor.

F. Ochburg, Post Traumatic Therapy
and Victims of Violence

November 2003 Gdoshkwaanagana Reservation
Regional Workshop Photo



From left: Stella Gibson, Lynn Piwonski, Michelle Lucas, Robert Hardenburgh
and Robert Stone.

“Mnajaadaanaanik Gdabinojiinhminaanik” “Let’s Honor Our Children”

Be Da Bin and Family Services along with community programs and volunteers would like to invite families with new babies and toddlers to a celebration to honor and welcome them into the community. We have organized a fun filled evening of story telling, children’s activities, and dinner. This will take place at the Little River Casino Resort in the Odawa conference room on April 16, 2004 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. We are asking families to register if planning to attend. This can be done by mail, fax or e-mail. Mail: LRB Family Services, 310 Ninth St Manistee, MI 49660 Fax: 231-398-0982 E-mail: aturner@lrboi.com or jwolfe@lrboi.com Registration must be done by April 15, 2004. So mark your calendars and plan on joining us to welcome our new babies and toddlers in a good way. If you have any questions please contact Angie Turner or Julie Wolfe at 1-888-382-8299.

Registration is limited so please register early.
Registrations can be made by Mail, Fax or Email

Family Name _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Family Members attending:

_____ #of Adults _____ # of children: 0-3 _____ 4-9 _____ 10-14 _____ 15 years or older _____

CHS and EHAP News

Aanii. With the weather changing, more sunshine and melting snow, Spring fever is upon us in a big way! Just be sure not to under-dress, there is still time to catch those last minute colds!

I have a few reminders for both CHS and EHAP. First, you need **AT LEAST** 48 hours advance notice (pre-approval) for non-emergent/life-threatening appointments. You can let us know as soon as your appointments are scheduled, you do not have to wait to report them to CHS/EHAP.

Second, you must report **ALL** referral appointments to CHS/EHAP from the Health clinic or any other approved physician. There is a notice posted on

the clinic windows and Amy will also remind you if she schedules you for a referral appointment.

Third, remember that if you live within 90 minutes one-way surface travel of an Indian Health Facility (clinic), you will need to use that clinic for your primary care. **Referrals will be covered from an Indian Health facility, but not to another primary care doctor.**

If the service can be performed at an Indian Health Clinic, we cannot pay to have the service done at a non-Indian Health Clinic. If you are not sure if there is an Indian Health Services clinic near you, please call, we have a listing of all the locations.

Please be sure to call with any ques-

tions or concerns. Please watch for your annual reassessments to come around your birthday. If you do not receive one, please let us know. Thank you to those of you who complete your reassessments and get them back in a timely manner. Also, keep remembering to put your confirmation numbers on your submissions for payment/reimbursement.

We hope to see you at the Spring membership meeting. Take care and remember to call with **ANY** questions you have regarding CHS/EHAP. The toll free number is 1.888.382.8299 or 231.723.8299. Miigwetch.

Respectfully,
Gina Wright

Enrollment Department News

The Enrollment Department would like to let everyone know that we have 3,051 members as of February 16, 2004; of which 506 members are 17 and under, 2,072 are between the ages of 18-54, and 473 Elders (55 and over).

We would also like to let all the members know that if they have an Address Change to contact Kimberly Alexander or Jessica Crawford in the Enrollment Department so we can send the member a form to fill out.

There are still 1197 members who have not sent in their Notarized Beneficiary forms, so if you are not sure if you have sent your form in please contact the Enrollment Department.

Membership can contact the Enrollment Department by calling Kimberly Alexander @ (231) 398-6712, Jessica Crawford @ (231) 398-6713 or by calling the toll-free number @ 1-888-723-8288.

"He who asks is a fool for five minutes, but he who does not ask remains a fool forever."

Family Services Department News

The High Price of Renting to Own

Almost every city has that store that be paying for the TV, you'll discover you can walk in with no money and get that you'd be paying \$4,264 for the TV- a TV by signing a rent-to-own contract. \$2,865 more than the cash price. So But many of us don't realize how much which is actually more appropriate on it will actually cost. We are drawn into your budget? Don't be taken in by the the idea of no money down, a small idea of no money down, a small pay- weekly payment, free delivery and ment and having it right now. Renting most of all "I can have it today". But to own may look like a great way to get think again. It often costs as much as the TV you want but it will cost you a lot three times the amount it would if you more money. So think twice before you were just to pay cash for it. For exam- sign a rent to own contract. Be in- ple a 52-inch color TV, which costs formed, compare prices and know \$1,399 at a retail store, is offered by which offers the greatest savings. For the rent-to-own store for only \$41 a more information on budgeting contact week for 104 weeks. The \$41 seems the Family Services Department at 1- more appropriate for your budget than 888-723-8299 ext. 6614.

Submitted by Julie Wolfe,
Family Services Department

Housing Department News

The Little River Band Housing Department would like to announce that the REACH Program is now accepting applications for qualified homeowners.

This program is intended to promote health and safety in the home, along with the importance of energy conservation and self-sufficiency. This program is available in the nine county service area for low-income families. To request an application please call our office at 231.723.8288 or toll-free 888.723.8288 ext. 6729.

Aki Maadiziwin Elder Housing Update

Currently, there are rental homes available at Aki Maadiziwin. These homes are open to low income, Little River Band Elders, age 55 or over.

Rent is based on 20% of your gross monthly adjusted income. The tenants pay their own utilities. If you are interested in living in this community, or have any questions, please call the Housing Department at 1-888-723-8288. Sorry, no pets are allowed in these new homes.



One of the new homes available for qualified Elders at Aki Maadiziwin

**LITTLE RIVER BAND OF OTTAWA INDIANS 5TH ANNUAL
“DODE MNAYAAWIN”
Family and Community Wellness Conference
April 16, 2004 Opens at 8 a.m.**

**Little River Casino and Resort
Three Fires Conference Center
Manistee, Michigan**

7:00 A.M. SUNRISE PIPE CEREMONY AND SONG OFFERING.

At the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Gathering grounds right across the street from the Casino, in the Fire Lodge.

7:45 A.M. REGISTRATION OPENS: NO FEE FOR THIS CONFERENCE

8:45 A.M. WELCOMING SPEAKER

9:00 TO 9:30 A.M. KEYOTE SPEAKER

9:30 A.M. BREAK

9:45 TO 10:55 A.M. WORKSHOPS

- A. Sapling Room: *Diabetes-Protecting and educating our community about diabetes.*
- B. Ojibwa Room: *The Importance of Anishinaabek Family and Community Core Values. “How we survive in today’s world utilizing Anishinaabek values from the past”*
- C. Bodweaadamiinh Room: *Family Peacemaking—“Msko Miikaan Naagidoowin” Those who follow the Red Road.*
- D. Odawa Room: *Anishinaabemowin and its importance in helping to make a healthy community.*

11:00 TO 12:00 P.M. WORKSHOPS

- A. Ojibwa Room: *Substance Abuse/Domestic Violence issues among our Anishinaabek.*
- B. Bodweaadamiinh Room: *The Importance of Personal Health-The issues of Anishinaabek Health.*
- C. Sampling Room: *Being a Leader-Anishinaabek youth role models in our communities.*

Lunch will be served in the conference room from 12:15 to 1:15 Prayer and Song for the Food.

1:30 TO 2:30 P.M. WORKSHOPS

- A. Bodweaadamiinh Room: *Stress Management-How can we react to today’s Tribal problems and create a healthy atmosphere.*
- B. Ojibwa Room: *The importance of keeping our traditions and ceremonies alive in our community to create healthy families.*
- C. Odawa Room: *Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Natural Resource Commission Panel Discussion-Upcoming Litigation Discussion and General Discussion.*

2:40 TO 3:50 P.M. WORKSHOPS

- A. Ojibwa Room: *Women’s Sacred Talking Circle-Retracing Anishinaabe footprints to live healthy through the teachings for women.*
- B. Bodweaadamiinh Room: *Men’s Sacred Talking Circle-Retracing Anishinaabe footprints to live healthy through teachings and family wellness.*

4:00 TO 8:00 P.M. ODAWA AND OJIBWA ROOMS: “MNAJAADAANAANIK GDABINOJIIHMINAANIK” LET’S HONOR OUR CHILDREN.

A special part of this year’s conference is welcoming new babies/toddlers into the community in a good way. This presentation will take place in a smoke free environment. A youth Drum will bring forth the songs for dance: Tribal Member Elders will share their stories. There will be activities for all with a giveaway brought to you by Be-Da-Bin and Family Services.



Language & Culture

April 2004 Language Lesson

Kenny Neganigwane Pheasant

www.anishinaabemowin.org

Pheasant9@aol.com

231-933-4406 or 231-392-6421

People & Professions

	Male (S)	(P)	Female (S)	(P)
Cook	Jiibaakwe nini	wok	Jiibaakwe niniikwe	k
Drummer	Adewege nini	wok	Adewege niniikwe	k
Doctor	Mshkikii nini	wok	Mshkikii niniikwe	k
Fisherman	Giigonhke nini	wok	Giigonhke niniikwe	k
Singer	Ngamo nini	wok	Ngamo niniikwe	k

Match the words and Pictures



A clock

Waabinong

Goon



Snow

Dabagiiswaan

Miiknot



Apple



Ear

Mshiimin

Tog



My father

Noodin

Binojiinhs



Four

Noos

Niiwin



East



It is windy



A baby

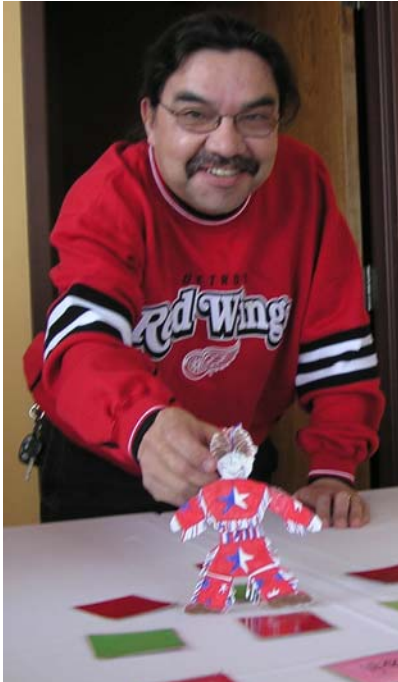


Pants

Answers from last month

Giizookpo	It snowed	Dopwin	Table
Ademin	Heart berry	Aki	Earth
Sema	Tobacco	Miigwan	Feather
Adewegan	Drum	Giigonh	Fish

FLAT STANLEY GOES TO LANGUAGE CLASS



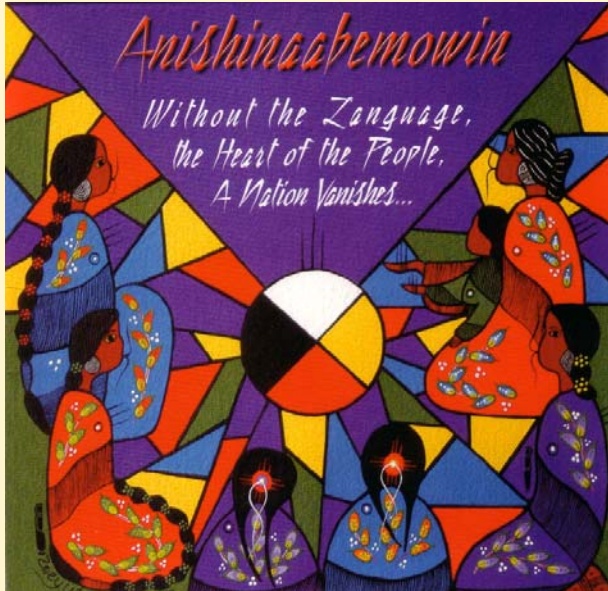
As a school project an elementary student from lower Michigan sent Flat Stanley to visit the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.

In this picture you see Stanley playing a word game at the Anishinaabemowin class that Kenny Pheasant teaches at the Little River Casino Resort.

Kenny gave Flat Stanley his Indian name, Mziniinhs zhinkaaza, which means, "Small Cartoon-like Character" and since then he's traveled all over the Reservation and has been seen in the tag drop box at the Conservation Department and at the Thursday night Regalia Class.

Where will Mziniinhs zhinkaaza turn up next before it's time for him to go back home...?

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Your family members	Press 9
His/her family members	Press 10
Numbers (10-90)	Press 11
Commands	Press 12

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Clockwise from left: 1) Angela Martin and daughter Angel work on shall fringe, 2) Flat Stanley and a drum, 3) Flat Stanley helps Autumn Cart & Sydnie Thomas measure their shawl material, 4) Phil Mem-berto sings and drums with the kids, 5) families working together on their daughters' Regalia, 6) Peggy Vriesman tries out her shawl material, 7) Daniel & mom Colleen deBres, 8) boys getting measured for their Regalia.



Are you (or someone you know) from Michigan? You are if:

1. You've never met any celebrities.
2. "Vacation" means going to Cedar Point.
3. At least 1 member of your family disowns you the week of the Michigan/Michigan State game.
4. Half the change in your pocket is Canadian.....eh!
5. You drive 86 mph on the highway and pass on the right.
6. Your idea of a traffic jam is 40 cars waiting to pass an orange barrel.
7. You know how to play (and pronounce) Euchre.
8. It's easy to get VERNORS Ginger Ale, Sanders Hot Fudge sauce, AND Faygo Pop.
9. You know how to pronounce "Mackinac."
10. You've had to switch on the "heat" and the "A/C" in the same day.
11. You bake with SODA and drink a POP.
12. The movie "Escanaba in Da Moonlight" wasn't funny. You consider it a documentary.
13. Your little league game was snowed out.
14. The word "thumb" has geographical, rather than anatomical significance.
15. You show people where you grew up by pointing to a spot on your right hand.
16. You measure distance in minutes.
17. When giving directions, you refer to "A Michigan Left."
18. You know that Kalamazoo not only exists, but isn't that far from Hell.
19. Your year has 2 seasons: Winter and Construction.
20. You know when it has rained because of the smell of worms.
21. Owning a Japanese car was a hangin' offense in your hometown.
22. You believe that "down south" means Toledo.
23. YOU ACTUALLY "GET" THESE JOKES AND SEND THEM TO ALL YOUR MICHIGAN FRIENDS

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4 Lessons About Teamwork That You Can

Learn From a Goose



When a goose gets sick or tired, two geese stay behind with the sick one to protect it. They don't leave until it can fly again or dies.



When the lead goose tires, he drops back in the formation and another goose fills in.



When flying in a "V" formation, the geese in front create an updraft for the ones behind them. This increases an individual bird's range by 71%.

While flying in formation, the geese in the rear honk encouragement to those leading the flock.

Have something cool to share with other kids in the Tribe? Send your submissions in and you might see them in a future issue of Currents. Your drawings, poetry, or short stories will be returned to you by regular mail so go ahead and send your best work in for everyone to see!

Kids, you know what to do! Color the Heron picture and send it in for this month's coloring contest. Monthly coloring contest is open to Tribal members and descendants from birth to 12 years old. If your picture is picked from the entry box you'll win a new set of colored pencils! Please include: Child's name, child's age, Tribal I.D. or Parent/Guardian Tribal I.D. and return mailing address. Do your best, Megwetch & Good Luck!



EDUCATION DEPARTMENT UPCOMING EVENTS

*Please call for
more information.*

Karate Class- beginning April 20th, meeting every Tuesday and Wednesday through August 28th, then meeting Wednesday September 1st, Wednesday September 8th. There will be an awards/recognition dinner on Friday, September 10th. Class is limited to 20 students ages 7 and up and will meet in Manistee.

Ziibiwing Cultural Center Day Trip- planned for the end of May- grand opening date is not scheduled. Limited to 12 students ages 7 and older.

Sleeping Bear Dunes Day Trip- Friday, June 11th. Limited to 12 students ages 7 and older.

Van Andel Museum Day Trip- Friday, June 18th. Limited to 12 students ages 7 and older

Migizi Business Camp- beginning Thursday, June 24th – Wednesday, June 30th. Limited to 15 students ages 12 to 18

Tubing down the Pere Marquette Day Trip- Friday, July 9th. Limited to 12 students ages 7 and older.

MemengwaaNsak zhaawanong wii biziwok- (Butterflies Will Fly South)- Tuesday, July 20th- Monarch Training/Caterpillar Parenting Class (at the Community Center in Manistee) through Tuesday, August 17th, Butterfly Send-off Date (at Magoon Creek).

Reading Club, Math Club, and Science Club- beginning Monday, August 2nd through Friday August 20th meeting each Monday and Friday. Club participants will meet for their final club project on a working cruise from Ludington, MI to Manitowac, WI on the ferry, S.S. Badger, Tuesday, August 24th.

4 day, 3 night luxury coach tour to the Grand Opening Celebrations of the National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, DC, beginning Thursday, September 23rd through Sunday, September 26th. Limited to 27 students.

Generation to Generation: Linda Hoover

Teaching her skills to her family, daughters, grand-daughters, nieces and others, Linda Hoover has by choice and maybe fate passed on a wonderful tradition. Her craftsmanship is truly one of a kind and sought after by collectors around the world.

Linda's mom, Alice Pete, came from "the Valley". She says some of the old-timers might remember that phrase, or place, as many LRBOI ancestors lived there. Linda has been married for 42 years and has 4 children, and 8 grandchildren.

Learning her craft simply by watching someone else or by buying another crafter's piece and taking it apart to see how it was made, Linda has created well over 6,000 pieces of art over the last 12 or 13 years. She thinks she's made more but exactly how many she's not real sure as she cares much more about the quality of her work than the quantity.

"I don't work on a piece until I feel right about it.", she says, "if I don't feel good about starting a project, I don't. The time has got to be right for me." When asked if she makes prayer when creating an object she jokingly, and modestly replies, "Yeah, that it turns out right!" She's made hairpieces, pouches, staffs, dancing sticks, drums, wall hangings, breast plates, moccasins, and even the occasional cradle board. She's also made gloves and other clothing items depending on what strikes her. Linda does do consignment work now and then but definitely on her own terms and own time. Like she says, "If the piece doesn't feel right, it doesn't go anywhere. No sale."

One of the founding members of the LRBOI Cultural Preservation Committee, Linda has continued to share her good sense of humor and skills with her kids, grandkids and other Native Americans. She's taught classes before and her art is featured in museums and in private collections in several countries including Denmark, Japan, England, Germany and Finland.

At one time Linda was involved in the Pow Wow circuit, some years traveling to 16 or more shows a year. One of the best things to her about being a traveling vendor was the fellowship that comes from meeting other artists and the opportunity to meet people from all over. She says she's made a lot of good friends over the years that she probably would have never met had she not been at a Pow Wow.

When asked what advice she would give to someone who wanted to learn a craft like hers would be, "Be patient. Understand that the first couple years aren't that great but as the years go on your work gets better and better." She says the desire to learn, and patience, are all you need to succeed. To her the best thing about teaching is the feeling of involvement and commitment that she shares with the people who want to learn from her.

You can see Linda Hoover's work at the Little River Casino Resort.



June Mamagona-Fletcher LRBOI's Tribal Manager

June started working for the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in November 2003. She's a Michigan native, and member of the Grand Traverse Bay Band of Ottawa & Chippewa Indians.

Being the Tribal Manager is multi-faceted. In any given day June could be dealing with personnel issues, governmental functions, staff meetings, training sessions, and many other projects that keep her and LRBOI employees busy. She states that the best thing about working for the Tribe is the staff.

Some goals June has for her position is to help people reach the goals they set for themselves. Her office door is always open and she welcomes people to ask her for help or advice should they need it. As a Native American she wants to see all types of people succeed, however they might define their success.

June is married to her husband Richard and they have two sons, Matthew (Wenona) and Zeke (Katie) and one grandson, Nolan. Her hobbies include reading, sewing and beading. Strawberries are her favorite thing in the whole world, whether it's strawberry pie, strawberry pictures, strawberries, fresh or whatever, she loves them.

Her lasting contribution to the world is through her children. She loves all kids and hopes she has many more grandchildren. Right now she loves to spend time with her grandson.



June loves kids! Here she is at a staff luncheon with Nimkiins Sprague.

Advice that June would share with a younger generation would be to further your education and do everything you can to keep learning. As an Odawa woman she believes she's doubly lucky since Odawa women are loving, caring, self-assured and smart. She tells people that we must try to picture

the future and remember that our children are the ones who will carry out what we learn today.



Nolan Patrick Mugwa Fletcher, one year old with Grandma June



**Check out the latest
issue of
Currents on-line at
WWW.LRBOI.COM
& email submissions to:
currents@lrboi.com**



**Check out LRBOI Tribal Member
Tim Gibson's art the first chance you get!
Here he is with a beautiful piece and you can
see more of his work throughout the
Little River Casino Resort.**

River Otter Research

continued from front page

The Little River Band of Ottawa Indians Conservation Department currently monitors river otter populations using three survey techniques. The first technique is monitoring of Tribal harvest and carcass analysis. Tribal harvest has been very low to date. The second technique is monitoring otter sign along river corridors. The third technique is monitoring otter sign at bridge crossings along various rivers within the 1836 Ceded Territory. The main objectives of these surveys are to measure and compare abundance of river otters and monitor harvests.

Submitted by Mark Knee



Top: Otters diving into the river; Below Left: Slide marks into hole in the river; Center: Otter foot print; Right: Otter slide marks towards the river.

Tribe prepares for sweetgrass planting

The staff at the LRBOI Conservation Department are gearing up and making plans to start a sweetgrass growing project on the Reservation. The Department plans on placing a number of sweetgrass boxes, or growing bins, around the Reservation in hopes that the grass thrives and can be shared with Tribal members. Eventually it's hoped that the sweetgrass strains that used to grow wild on the Reservation area will once again flourish for Tribal members to harvest.

Sweetgrass, also known as the "hair of Mother Earth" by the Odawa, has many cultural uses. It's been used as ceremonial incense, perfume, hair wash, bedding, and basketry. Medicinally it's been used as a cold remedy, cough medicine, respiratory aid and analgesic. It's used for decoration or adornment for Native American dancers and among the Great Lakes regions sweetgrass is used traditionally to make bowls, baskets and mats.



From left: Bonnie Harnish, Ken LaHaye, Nate Svoboda, Bob Sanders and Mike Snyder.

Sweetgrass blades can be braided and burned for use in ceremonies to bring in good and is often used in conjunction with sage for various rituals. Traditionalists usually burn sweetgrass first and then sage to drive negativity away.

A perennial grass, the highly prized longer blades that grow on sterile shoots reach 18 inches in length. It has an extensive growing range in North America, covering parts of Alaska to Newfoundland and down into New England and the Great Lakes, into the upper Midwest and Oregon and also in the Southwest. Sweetgrass usually lives in moist ground on shores, meadows, low prairies and at the edges of woods, bogs and marshes.

If growing your own sweetgrass keep the soil moist but not soaking. You can fertilize with a balanced lawn-starter two or three times during the first year and years following the harvest. Organic fertilizers may be used also at 5lbs per 100 square feet. Sweetgrass should be weeded at least every other year.

For more information about sweetgrass contact the Conservation Department or check out these interesting web sites:

<http://plants.usda.gov>
<http://www.ecoseeds.com/sweetgrass.html>
www.hort.purdue.edu/newcrop/proceedings1993/v2-442.html



2004 Fish Distribution

Archie Martell, Great Lakes Fisheries Biologist

The Great Lakes Fisheries assessment program in 2003 conducted assessment activities in Lake Michigan to collect biological information on fish stocks from Manistee to Muskegon. After completing the collection of the biological information LRBOI members were offered the opportunity to receive the fish. Many members took advantage of this opportunity to receive fresh fish for themselves and their family's consumption. There was approximately 5,000 pounds of fish distributed to members as a byproduct of this program.

Please call 231-723-1594 or toll free 866-723-1594 if you are interested in picking up fish in the round or fill out the form below and mail it.

Please cut out and mail in:

LRBOI Fish Distribution

Name_____

Tribal ID_____Phone_____Elder: Yes____No____

Address:_____

City:_____State:_____Zip_____

Mail to: Bonnie Harnish, Executive Secretary
LRBOI Natural Resource Department
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Manistee, MI 49660

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Our Commitment to You! The mission of the Training and Development Department is: To improve the training, development, and performance opportunities at the Little River Casino Resort through active partnerships with all departments and employees, to help them reach their goals. Please allow us to put our years of experience and talent to work for you and your department.

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Effective Communication —This program looks at what can get in the way of communicating effectively and what you can do to avoid those obstacles.	2 hour module
Customer Service “Give’em the Pickle” This module focuses on setting clear and measurable expectations for our employees to follow when giving exceptional service to our guests.	2 hour module
Attitude Virus —This program identifies several different attitudes that can have a negative impact on your department. It also shows how you can address those behaviors to turn those employees around.	2 hour module
Manager Supervisor Orientation — This is a Six Part series that helps new managers and supervisors with policy interpretation and application. It also focuses on leadership principles and successful interviewing skills.	4 four hour modules
Change Management “Who Moved My Cheese” - A very simple but effective way of looking at change from a different perspective.	2 hour module
Train—the—Trainer —This is an in depth program that focuses how to be more effective as a trainer and how to be more consistent.	4 hour module
Conflict Resolution —This program helps participants identify and deal with conflict	2 hour module

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Jerry Loeffler—Security Training Specialist 398-3939
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Eric Gustad—Training Specialist 398-3847
with over 5 years experience in training and development and performance improvement.

Brenda Koon—Slot Training Specialist 398-3938
with 9 years of experience working in Tribal Casinos and 2 years of experience in Training & Development.

Heather Lachance—Cage Training Specialist 398-3838
with over 4 years of experience in Cage procedures, Title 31 and Suspicious Activity Reporting.

Butch Garber—Table Games Training Specialist 398-3937
with 10 years of gaming experience. Background in surveillance and policy / procedure design and implementation.

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If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Little River Casino Resort Training & Development

231-398-3935
231-723-1589
corinnak@lrcr.com



Supreme Court hears arguments on Indian casino contracts

LANSING, Mich. (AP) -- The Michigan Supreme Court heard arguments on whether state contracts to allow gambling on lands owned by four Michigan Indian tribes were properly approved.

The case could affect the future of at least two casinos already operating and three more that are pending. It also could have implications for all 17 Indian casinos in the state.

Casino opponents want to reverse an appeals court ruling that said, in part, that the state of Michigan has no authority to regulate conduct on Indian tribal land. The appeals court decision reversed an Ingham County Circuit Court ruling that the compacts between Michigan and the four Indian tribes were unconstitutional because of the way the state legislature approved them.

"This case is interesting," Supreme Court Chief Justice Maura Corrigan said Thursday as the testimony concluded. The court is expected to issue its decision by late July.

The key issue may be what role states may play, if any, regulating gambling on Indian lands. Federal law allows Indian gaming, but says states may enter into compacts with tribes related to gaming operations.

The four compacts in question were

reached between the Indian tribes and then-Gov. John Engler in 1998. Later that year, the state Legislature endorsed the compacts with a resolution that required the majority vote of lawmakers present at the time.

Casino opponents say the Legislature's resolution endorsing the compacts is not law, and that the legislative approval required should be a formal bill, which would need a majority vote of all lawmakers, not just those present.

"The compacts effectively make new laws," said Robert Jonker, an attorney for a group including New Buffalo-based Taxpayers of Michigan Against Casinos. "They transform gambling that would otherwise be illegal and make it legal."

Lawyers for the state of Michigan and for the Indian tribes agreed the legislative resolution is not law, but say no law was required to make the contracts binding. Federal law does not specify how compacts between states and Indian tribes must be reached, they said.

"I'm asking the court to say, 'It's not a law, it did not purport to be a law, and no law is needed,'" said Eugene Driker, a lawyer representing the state of Michigan.

The state constitution appears to be silent on the issue, Justice Clifford Taylor

said.

The compacts affect the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians near New Buffalo, the Little Traverse Bay Band of Odawa Indians in Mackinaw City and Petoskey, the Huron Band of Potawatomi Indians in Battle Creek and the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians in Manistee.

The casinos in Petoskey and Manistee are open.

A second lawsuit involving the potential New Buffalo casino, filed in federal court by the anti-casino group, has delayed its opening. The lawsuit claims the federal Bureau of Indian Affairs failed to adequately analyze the casino's socio-economic impact.

The Pokagons since have submitted a supplemental environmental assessment.

Michigan's 17 Indian casinos pay a portion of their revenue to the state of Michigan's strategic fund. The casinos have provided more than \$10 million annually to local communities in recent years, according to Michigan Gaming Control Board.

*On the Net: March 11, 2004, 5:25 PM
Michigan Supreme Court, <http://courts.michigan.gov/supremecourt>
http://www.freep.com/news/statewire/sw94340_20040311.htm*

Campbell won't seek another Senate term

WASHINGTON - After 12 years in the Senate and almost twice that many in politics, Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell announced March 3 that he will not seek re-election this year.

The Colorado Republican gave the effect of stress on his health as the reason for his decision. At 70, he also said it was time to get back to his family and his Colorado ranch.

Campbell underwent treatment for prostate cancer last winter, treatment he described as not strictly necessary. He looked healthy and said he felt fine afterward, adding that his doctors had given him a good prognosis for a full recovery. His statements largely dispelled the speculation in Washington all last year that he would not run for re-election.

On the evening of Feb. 25, at a reception that started off a Republican forum for Native leaders, Campbell gave a spirited speech in the Great Hall of the Library of Congress. The next morning, he did not make a scheduled appearance at the forum proper; it turned out that he had checked into a hospital with chest pains. He checked out again with a clean bill of health, but had spent another night in the hospital before the March 3 announcement.

Campbell's office has been the subject of a Senate ethics probe in recent weeks over the conduct of a former staff member. So far the investigation has not implicated Campbell himself for any direct misconduct.

Campbell began his political life as a Democrat but went over to the Republican side of the aisle in 1995, a move ascribed to mainly state-level politics. In any case it threw the closely divided Senate into a whirl of calculation as to which party would hold the majority in the 1996 elections.

The same calculations are under way now, as the Senate remains closely divided between 51 Republicans, 48 Democrats, and one Democrat-leaning Independent. Majority status confers the all-important chairmanship on committees' ranking majority-party members. Colorado Gov. Bill Owen, an anti-tax Republican with connections to President George W. Bush that go back to the Texas oilfields, has been mentioned as a Republican candidate for Campbell's seat. Among Democrats, congressional Reps. Diana DeGette and Mark Udall have been mentioned as leading contenders.

Of particular note for Indian country,

Campbell's decision means there may not be an Indian in the Senate next term. Campbell, Northern Cheyenne, is the only Indian in the current Senate and one of only a handful to ever serve there. He has been a reliable champion on virtually every Native issue of note. Most recently, he oversaw the passage of a probate reform bill through an initial "mark-up" meeting of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, which he chairs.

Under Senate rules, Campbell had been scheduled to rotate off the SCIA chair at the end of the 2004 session. John McCain, R-Ariz., is in line to inherit the chair if the Republicans retain a Senate majority after the 2004 elections. If the Democrats pick up an extra seat or two (depending on who wins the presidency), Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, is the senior senator in line for the chair.

Editor's note: A speech by Sen. Daniel K. Inouye, D-Hawaii reported on in (Vol. 23 Iss. 38) erroneously implied that Sen. Daniel Akaka, D-Hawaii, might yield his seniority on the Senate Indian Affairs Committee to another chairman or vice chairman.

*Posted: March 04, 2004 - 11:51am EST
by: Jerry Reynolds
Washington D.C. correspondent
Indian Country Today*

Daschle: Provide justice to Indian trust account holders

The United States government made a commitment, through solemn treaty obligations, when it divided Indian lands in 1887, to hold those lands in trust, to manage them wisely and to give any income from the sale or lease of the land to its Indian owners. Our government has never fulfilled that promise.

The Indian trust has been so badly mismanaged, for so long, by administrations of both political parties, that no one today has any idea how much money should even be in the trust - let alone, how much is owed to individual account holders, and for what. That's not just wrong, it's negligent.

Ten years ago, Congress ordered the Department of Interior's Bureau of Indian Affairs to conduct a full and accurate accounting of the Indian trust funds so that we know how much money is owed to each trust account holder and we can provide accurate and timely payments to them. The Department ignored that directive.

Seven years ago, in the face of growing frustration at the unwillingness of government leaders to come to grips with this problem, Elouise Cobell, of the Blackfeet Indian Nation, filed a federal lawsuit to compel the Department to follow Congress's directive. The Department has fought that lawsuit every step of the way.

Last September, the judge in the Cobell case ordered the Interior Department to make a full and accurate historical accounting of all individual Indian trust accounts. Weeks later - behind closed doors - House Republican leaders, working with the Bush Administration, used legislative sleight-of-hand to derail the judge's order for a year.

For years, Congress has left it to the Executive branch to resolve the Indian trust dispute, yet the problems are no closer to being solved now than they were a decade ago. It is time for Congress to step up and accept its share of the responsibility for finding a timely and fair solution to the trust management problem.

I see three options. Congress, the Interior Department and the tribes, can work together, as equal partners, to fashion a consensus solution. We can seek a mediated solution to the problem. Or we can allow the issue to be settled in court.

In testimony before the Senate Indian Affairs Committee on March 10, I offered specific suggestions for moving the trust management issue forward. These suggestions reflect discussions I have had with tribal chairs and tribal members in South Dakota, and with other leaders whose judgment I respect.

First, Congressional meddling in the Cobell v. Norton lawsuit must end. Interventions such as the legislative rider blocking the judge's order to start the accounting process do not simply delay justice for Indian trust account holders, they undermine the delicate balance of powers that is at the heart of our system of government.

Second, as soon as possible, Congress, the White House and tribal leaders should jointly seek a consensus solution to the trust dispute. This problem cannot be solved by bureaucrats in Washington alone. The search for a settlement must include meaningful consultation with tribal leaders. After all, we are talking about Indian people's money, not the government's money.

Third, all parties should seriously explore the possibility of a mediated settlement. The mediation process should be headed by leaders of great stature, who are experienced in difficult negotiations and whose integrity is unquestioned.

Finally, Congress should begin budgeting now for the eventual resolution of the trust management dispute. Last year, I introduced legislation to create a fund to begin making payments to trust holders who have received an objective accounting of their trust assets. Congress should begin now to look seriously at that proposal and perhaps others. Many of the people who are owed money are elders. They cannot wait years to learn their account balances, and years more to receive their money. There should be a mechanism in place to issue regular payments to account holders in case negotiation or mediation fails to produce a consensus solution.

We have given the Executive branch more than a reasonable amount of time to show progress. The time has come to insist on a just and timely solution to the trust management problem.

Tom Daschle, a Democrat, is the senior senator from South Dakota and serves as the Senate Minority Leader. In addition to his leadership post, Daschle also serves as a member of the Agriculture, Finance and Rules committees. In past Congresses, he has served on the Veterans Affairs, Indian Affairs and Ethics committees. Daschle is a native of Aberdeen, S.D.



Two lawsuits have stalled casino plans for the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians of Michigan.

The tribe won approval from the Bureau of Indian Affairs to have 675 acres placed into trust. But a lawsuit by the Taxpayers of Michigan Against Casinos (TOMAC) has sent the decision back to the BIA.

The Supreme Court held a hearing last week to consider whether the agreements are illegal without legislative approval. Four tribes in the state have casino plans or recently opened casinos.

TOMAC is responsible for a second lawsuit against the tribe's casino compact with the state. The Michigan Su-

March 15, 2004
<http://www.indianz.com/IndianGaming/archive/000672.asp>

Costs to print Tribal newsletter February 2003 Print & Postage \$3,197	Costs to print Tribal newspaper February 2004 Print & Postage \$1,932
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Native America Calling is a live call-in program, linking public radio stations, the Internet and listeners into a thought-provoking national conversation about issues specific to Native American communities.

A visit to the Native America Calling website (www.nativeamericacalling.com) can offer information about affiliates in your area, an events calendar, you can suggest show topics, search archives and sign up for email news among other things.

Source: nativeamericacalling.com

TRIBAL COUNCIL

Tribal Council Recorder’s Report

In accordance with Article IV, Section 5(b)2, the Recorder submits the following report to the membership. The Recorder’s Report has been condensed to include the Actions taken and Roll Call votes during the meetings represented. Members may review full sets of approved minutes in the Recorder’s Office.
Respectfully submitted, Janine M. Sam, Tribal Council Recorder.

In December of 2003, the Tribal Elders were provided a brief overview of the National Congress of American Indians Annual meeting, held in November of 2003.

INDIAN CHILD WELFARE ACT
House of Representatives Majority Leader Tom DeLay sent a letter to David M. Alker, Comptroller General, General Accounting Office (GAO), requesting a review of the implementation of the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). The request alleges problems occurring with how states and Tribes interpret provisions of the Act. One of the primary factors in the letter was a request for breakdown of ICWA cases by “reservation status”.

“Reservation Status” is important, because it depends on the definition of that term how the case would be counted. For example, is the intention to limit ‘reservation status’ designation to only those children that reside on a reservation? If so, this would be very detrimental to Little River Band members and descendants that would otherwise be entitled to ICWA application in their cases, due to locality of residence (on or off reservation.)

There were three primary concerns with ICWA that were identified as the reasons for Congressman Delay’s request:

1. Situations where Tribes intervene late in ICWA cases causing delays.
2. Cases where ICWA is being applied where the Indian parents or children don’t seem “Indian” to them (low blood quantum or don’t live on the reservation.)
3. Situations where applying ICWA has delayed finding foster care or adoptive placement for an Indian child.

At the National Congress Annual Meeting, it was noted that the direction of the study appears biased against Tribes and Indian families, and will provide little focus on states non-compliance with ICWA, or the good outcomes that have occurred because of ICWA.

The Elders adopted a strong statement requesting that the Tribal Council and Ogema defend Little River Band’s right to assert ICWA and intervene in cases that affect our members and descendants, and to preserve Indian Families whenever possible.

ELDER REPRESENTATIVES TO NATIONAL EVENTS
During the same meeting in December, a request was made to the Elders that they designate or appoint Elder Representatives to travel with members of Council or the Ogema to National meetings such as the National Congress of American Indians, the National Indian Gaming Association, National Indian Education Association, etc. The request was made to ensure that the Little River Band has adequate Elder representation at these events, and that the Little River Band Elders have members of their own body to attend and return information to the Elders on national issues that affect the entire Tribe. The Elders choose their designees:
Alyce Giltz and Marge Lutz.

Kchi-Miigwech to the Elders for taking such proactive action in response to issues presented.

New Proposed Legislation will have Negative Impact on Little River Casino

The passage of House Bills 4609-4611, known collectively as the ***Agri-cultural Enhancement Bill***, which allows for video lottery terminals (VLTs) to proliferate in the state of Michigan will negatively impact Little River Casino and the local community.

VLTs, which are similar to slot machines, will be allowed at race tracks throughout the state. Findings in a recent report commissioned by Little River completed this month indicate that the Little River’s casino revenue would **decrease** nearly 40% by 2006, if this legislation passes. The study further suggests that this could cost the casino and the Tribal Government more than 400 jobs.

The local community will feel an impact from this job loss, and the reduced purchases from Michigan vendors, as well as being impacted by a reduction in the voluntary tax that the Tribe pays locally and to the state. This reduction would result in more than a \$77 million annual loss in payroll and spending with northwest Michigan Businesses.

The House of Representatives has already passed this bill. The Senate may vote by the end of March on this issue. Little River employs individuals from Muskegon to Traverse City, and has asked their employees and members to call, email, or fax their local Senator to encourage them to vote “no” on House Bills 4609-4611.

You can contact:

Senator Michelle McManus
35th District representing Benzie, Clare, Kalkaska, Lake Leelanau, Manistee, Mecosta, Missaukee, Osceola, Roscommon, and Wexford counties.
Phone: 517 373 1725
Fax: 517 373-0741
senmmcmanus@senate.michigan.gov

Senator Gerald VanWoerkom
34th District Senator representing Mason, Muskegon, Newaygo, and Oceana counties.
Phone: 517 373-1635
Fax: 517 373 3300
gvanwoerkom@senate.michigan.gov

Senator Jason Allen, Chair Senate Gaming & Casino Oversight Committee
37th District Senator representing Grand Traverse, Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, Cheboygan, Presque Isle, Mackinac, and Chippewa counties.
Phone: 517 373 2413
Fax: 517 373 5144
senjallen@senate.michigan.gov

Tuesday, March 23, 2004 there will be a press conference at the Grand Traverse Resort in Traverse City at 9:30 a.m. There will also be a press conference later that day at 3:00 pm in Lansing on the capitol steps.

Commission and Committee Stipend Report

Pursuant to resolution, the Tribal Council required the publication of commission, committee and board stipend payments collected for fiscal year 2003. Included in the report are the members of each Commission, and the amount of stipend paid for service on the body that they serve. Some members listed concluded the service of their term during 2003, and are referenced as “past commissioners” (**Term expiration dates are included**

Binojeeuk Commission

Tammy Kleeman, Chairperson 9/20/2007

Total stipends paid 2003

Current Commissioners Stipend Totals

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| • Joan Spalding 9/20/2005 | \$1,400 |
| • Laverne Oren 9/20/2005 | \$1,500 |
| • William Memberto 9/20/2007 | \$925 |
| • Kimberly Alexander* 9/20/2007 | \$600 |

Past Commissioners Stipend Totals

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-------|
| • Pamela Medahko (resigned seat) | \$700 |
| • Kim Crampton (completed term) | \$275 |

Natural Resources

Pat Ruiter, Tribal Council Liaison

Total stipends paid 2003

Current Commissioners Stipend Totals

- | | |
|------------------------------|---------|
| • Mick Moore 9/20/2007 | \$3,200 |
| • Levi Stone 9/20/2005 | \$1,000 |
| • Jimmie Mitchell* 9/20/2007 | \$1,700 |
| • Mike Ceplina* 9/20/2003 | \$1,500 |
| • Virgil Johnson* 9/20/2005 | \$1,400 |

Past Commissioners Stipend Totals

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---------|
| • John Koon (completed term) | \$3,600 |
| • Mike Snyder (completed term) | \$3,200 |
| • Dave Schultz (completed term) | \$3,300 |
| • Ken LaHaye (completed term) | \$3,400 |

Commission and Committee Stipend Report

Gaming Commission

Lisa McCatty, Tribal Council Liaison

Total stipends paid 2003

Current Commissioners Stipend Totals

- Bonnie Kenny \$4,900
- Joan Spalding - Chair 9/20/2005 \$4,400
- Lee Ivinson* 9/20/2007 \$800

Enrollment Commission

Janine Sam, Tribal Council Liaison

Total Stipends paid 2003

Current Commissioners Stipend Totals

- Roger Sprague 9/20/2005 \$3,800
- Ben Hamilton 9/20/2007 \$2,700
- Kathleen Bowen 9/20/2005 \$3,700
- Matthew Stratton - Chair 9/20/2005 \$3,500
- Katie Glocheski 9/20/2005 \$4,400
- Margie Lutz* 9/20/2007 \$1,900
- Norbert Kelsey* 9/20/2007 \$700

Past Commission Member Stipend Totals

- Candace Chapman (completed term) \$3,100
- Brian Medacco (resigned seat) \$1,200

Housing Commission

Steve Parsons, Tribal Council Liaison

Total stipends paid

Current Commissioners Stipend Totals

- John Ross 9/20/2005 \$3,300
- Dan Shepard 9/20/2005 \$3,000
- Frank Beaver 9/20/2007 \$2,800
- Lynn Moore* 9/20/2007 \$500

Past Commission Member Stipend Totals

- Bob Campeau \$2,400
- Don Koon Jr \$1,000

Elders Committee

Elaine Porter, Tribal Council Liaison

Total stipends paid 2003

Current Committee Member Stipend Totals

- Dan Stewart – Chair \$570
- Laverne Oren \$570
- Loretta Beccaria \$350
- Roger Sprague \$300
- M. Lutz \$400

Education Committee

Brian Medacco, Tribal Council Liaison

Total stipends paid 2003

Current Committee Member Stipend Totals

- Steve Lewis 9/20/2006 \$200
- Norbert Kelsey 9/20/2004 \$350
- Candace Chapman-Chair 9/20/2004 \$350
- Martha Kase 9/20/2006 \$300
- Judy Nedeau 9/20/2006 \$250
- Lynn Piwonski* 9/20/2004 \$100
- Lynn Moore* 9/20/2006 \$50

Cultural Preservation Committee

Tammy Kleeman/Israel Stone

Tribal Council Liaisons

Total stipends paid 2003

Current Committee Member Stipend Totals

- Art DeBres - Chair 02/2004 \$900
- Phillip Memberto 9/20/2007 \$950
- Stella Gibson 9/20/2007 \$650
- Angie Turner* 9/20/2007 \$150
- Mary Bower* 9/20/2005-(resigned) \$100

Past Committee Member Stipend Totals

- Brenda Hyma (completed term) \$525
- Dan Shepard (completed term) \$800

*denotes a newly appointed member

Tribal Council Meeting of January 7, 2004

Meeting Attendees: Jo Anne House, Kathleen Block, Jessica Burger, Phillip Memberto, Steve Wheeler, Mark Dougher, Mark Knee, Brian Gibson, Jimmie Mitchell, Rory Flintknife, Gary Lewis, Lynn Moore, June Fletcher, Norbert Kelsey

Meeting Called to Order 10:13 am, Steve Parsons

Roll Call, Janine Sam

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Motion to approve the agenda with the following amendments: ADD GRANTS 1. – LIHEAP AND 2. - CIRCLE OF FLIGHT, CHANGE THAT REPORT WAS RECEIVED FROM RORY FLINTKNIFE, REPORT WAS RECEIVED FROM BILL BROOKS AND MOVED TO CLOSED SESSION A2D, CHANGE NEW BUS A - STRIKING “TRAILER” AND CHANGE TO “AND RELATED EQUIPMENT”, ADD NEW BUSINESS G – FAMILY SERVICES DIRECTOR, ADD NEW BUSINESS H – PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR, ADD UNDER BIDS & CONTRACTS 1. - RETAINER AGREEMENT AND 2. – CONSULTANT CONTRACT; by Kleeman, supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty		x	

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-01, RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE PRORAM (LIHEAP) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$19,931 FOR 2004 AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE OGEMA TO EXECUTE ANY RELEVANT GRANT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS; by Kleeman ; supported by Stone.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty		x	

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2004 CONTINUED

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-02, RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT TO APPROVE THE SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR, BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS FOR THE CIRCLE OF FLIGHT PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$22,100 FOR 2004 AND AUTHORIZATION FOR THE OGEMA TO EXECUTE ANY RELEVANT GRANT APPLICATION DOCUMENTS; by Kleeman; supported by Medahko.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty		x	

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Report of the Tribal Ogema—Financial Report
a. October 2003

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE OCTOBER 2003 FINANCIAL REPORT; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam		x	
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty		x	

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone		x	

Report of the Tribal Ogema—Financial Report
a. November 2003

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE NOVEMBER 2003 FINANCIAL REPORT; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam		x	
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty		x	

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Report of the Tribal Ogema—Operations Report
a. November 2003

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE NOVEMBER 2003 OPERATIONS REPORT; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Report of the Tribal Ogema—Operations Report
a. December 2003

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE DECEMBER 2003 OPERATIONS REPORT; by Kleeman; supported by Ruiter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Commission Reports-Binojeeuk Commission

Submitted by Tammy Kleeman

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE BINOJEEUK COMMISSION REPORT DATED JULY 2003; by Kleeman; supported by Ruiter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Attorney Report-

Submitted by Rory Flint Knife

MOTION TO ACCEPT FOR FILING THE ATTORNEY REPORT DATED NOVEMBER 2003, INCLUDING HANDOUT; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2004 CONTINUED

New Business A-Purchase of Tractor and Related Equipment

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

It was noted that the tractor and trailer will be used by the Maintenance Department. This is a budgeted item and has multiple purposes for moving material from one place to another: dirt, sand, gravel, snow, etc.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-03, APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE BY MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT TO PURCHASE TRACTOR AND RELATED EQUIPMENT; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko		x	
McCatty		x	

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business B-Vehicle Purchase

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

The vehicle proposed is for the Utility Department.

MOTION TO POSTPONE TO NEXT WEEK; by Porter; supported by McCatty.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business C-Authorization to Post Staff Position

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

Authorization to post Adult Chemical Dependency/Behavioral Health Counselor position Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health Services, Tribal Health Services Position required to enhance service to membership.

MOTION TO REMOVE FROM THE AGENDA; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone		x	

New Business D-Authorization to Post Staff Position

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

Authorization to post Intake Support position Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health Services, Tribal Health Services Position required to enhance service to membership.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-04, AUTHORIZATION TO POST AND HIRE AN INTAKE SUPPORT SPECIALIST, BE-DA-BIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION # 03-0423-105; by Kleeman; supported by McCatty.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter		x	
Medahko		x	
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business E-Authorization to Post Staff Position

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

Authorization to post Youth Counselor position Be-Da-Bin Behavioral Health Services, Tribal Health Services Position required to enhance service to membership.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-05, AUTHORIZATION TO POST AND HIRE A YOUTH COUNSELOR, BE-DA-BIN BEHAVIORIAL HEALTH SERVICES PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION # 03-0423-105; by Porter; supported by McCatty.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter		x	
Medahko		x	
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business F-Authorization for Purchase

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

Purchase one (1) Criminal and Applicant Finger Roll System and Warranty
This is a budgeted item for the Public Safety Department.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-6, APPROVAL OF EXPENDITURE FOR CRIMINAL AND APPLICANT FINGERROLL SYSTEM; by Stone; supported by Kleeman.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business G-Interim Appointment

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

Interim appointment of Mark Sanford to Family Services Director Position, due to vacancy.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-7, INTERIM APPOINTMENT TO FAMILY SERVICES DIRECTOR MADE BY THE OGEMA; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Abstain
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko			Abstain
McCatty			Abstain

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2004 CONTINUED

New Business H-Interim Appointment

Interim appointment of Robert Clark to Public Safety Director Position.

Submitted by Lee A. Sprague

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0107-8, INTERIM APPOINTMENT TO PUBLIC SAFETY DIRECTOR POSITION MADE BY THE OGEMA; by Kleeman; supported by Porter.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty			Abstain

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone		x	

Amendment to Agenda

MOTION TO AMEND THE AGENDA TO ADD AN ITEM IN CLOSED SESSION, VII, ITEM 1-TRIBAL MEMBER ADDRESS TO THE COUNCIL; by Sam; supported by McCatty.

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam	x		
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

This portion of the meeting adjourned at 11:59. The Council reconvened in open session at 6:19 p.m., and adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m.

Tribal Council Meeting of January 14, 2004

Meeting Attendees: Jo Anne House, Brian Gibson, Mike Ceplina, Duane Hopkins, Tina Vaquera, Mick Moore, Levi Stone, Don Stone, Matthew Stratton, Bob Hardenburgh, Jimmie Mitchell

Meeting Called to Order 10:03 am, Steve Parsons

Roll Call, Tammy Kleeman

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter			Absent
Medahko	x		
McCatty			Absent

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

McCatty and Ruiter were enroute to meeting, delayed due to weather, Sam was ill.

Motion to approve the agenda with the following amendments: REMOVE OLD BUSINESS A AND B, UNDER NEW BUSINESS REMOVE ITEMS A, F, G, H, AND I, MOVE NEW BUSINESS D TO CLOSED, ADD IN CLOSED SESSION A2 – ENROLLMENT RECORDS AND B3 – CONTRACT APPROPRIATION; by Stone; supported by Kleeman.

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter			Absent
Medahko	x		
McCatty			Absent

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

Enrollment Ordinance Changes:

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0114-13, TEMPORARY AMENDMENTS TO ENROLLMENT ORDINANCE TO ALLOW FOR DIGITAL COPYING OF ALL RECORDS; by Stone; supported by Medahko.

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter			Abstain
Medahko	x		
McCatty			Absent

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business A-

Supplemental Appropriation – Tribal Council Budget - Salary for Position of Elder Coordinator

Submitted by Steve Parsons

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0114-04, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION TO THE TRIBAL COUNCIL BUDGET TO COVER THE SALARY OF THE ELDER COORDINATOR; by Porter; supported by Stone.

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty			Absent

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

New Business B-Prohibiting use of Rubber Stamp

Submitted by Lisa M. McCatty

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0114-15, PROHIBITING THE USE OF A RUBBER STAMP FOR A SIGNATURE WITH THE AMENDMENT IN THE FIRST RESOLVE TO INCLUDE TIME SHEETS; by Kleeman; supported by Ruiter.

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty			Absent

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

MEETING OF JANUARY 14, 2004 CONTINUED

New Business C-Authorizing Release of Judgement Funds

Submitted by Janine M. Sam

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION # 04-0114-16, AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF JUDGMENT FUND MONIES FOR CERTAIN MI-NORS REACHING THE AGE OF MAJORITY IN DECEMBER 2003; by Medacco; supported by Medahko.

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

MOTION TO MOVE FROM CLOSED TO OPEN RESOLUTION #04-0114-18, 04-0114-19, 04-0114-20, 04-0114-21, AND CORRESPONDING ROLL CALL VOTES; by Parsons; supported by Stone.

Attendance:	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Parsons	x		
Sam			Absent
Porter	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Ruiter	x		
Medahko	x		
McCatty	x		

	Yes	No	Abstain/Absent
Kleeman	x		
Medacco	x		
Stone	x		

This portion of the meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.. The Council reconvened in open session at 1:32 p.m., and adjourned the meeting at 1:36 p.m.

Items of Special Interest:

Each month, the Tribal Council is provided reports from the Tribal Ogema during the Saturday meeting. Included are the Financial Report and Operations Report. Both of these reports contain information that may be of special interest to the Tribal Membership. The Operations Report contains the activity summaries and detailed submissions for each Department within the Tribal Government. When the reports are submitted and accepted by Tribal Council, they are a matter of public record, and available for members to review. In addition, the Council keeps a copy of each resolution adopted in the Recorder's office. The Tribal Council Office also keeps a copy of each report submitted by the Commissions and Committees of the Tribe. The Records of the Tribal Council, including Resolutions, Minutes, Reports and Open meetings files are available for review by members during normal business hours. Members are encouraged to contact the Tribal Council Office to view accepted Financial Reports, Operations Reports, Resolutions, Commission Reports, or other records that have been accepted by the Tribal Council and placed on file.

This concludes the Recorder's Report.
Respectfully Submitted, Janine M. Sam

Get a Chance to Win Free Gas at MEIJERS

Every Tuesday from January 6 to May 25, 2004 the Little River Casino Resort is giving guests a chance to win free gas from Meijer. Guests can pick up their game card every Tuesday from 4pm to 8pm at the Player's Club.

Win Instantly

1/2 the game cards are
instant winners!

Win Big

Spell the word M.E.I.J.E.R.
and win free gas for a year!

Win Again

Participants entered into
weekly drawing for \$100 gift cards!

Tuesday's All
About Winning Gas
at the
Little River
Casino Resort



Guests can get more details and pick up their game pieces at the Player's Club. They must be Player's Club members to participate. Sorry, employees of Little River and their families can not participate.

90-Day Calendar & Contact Information

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT & ALTERNATIVE ENERGY CONFERENCE

April 24th & 25th
Little River Casino Resort

This conference is sponsored by the Tribe and others to present important information to local communities about alternative energy and sustainable development. For more details, please contact Dan Shepard or Frank Beaver at 1-888-723-8288.



LRBOI's Wind Turbine at the Elders' Housing Development

April 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	2	3 WS 10a EL 12p
4	5 EN 5:30p	6	7 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	8 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p	9	10
11	12 BI 10:00a	13 CP 5:30p	14 TC 10:00a	15 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	16	17 TC 10:00a Land Use Spring Member- ship Meeting
18	19 EN 5:30p	20 TC 1:30p	21 TC 10:00a	22 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	23	24
25	26	27 CP 5:30p	28 TC 10:00a	29 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	30	

May 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 WS 10a
2	3 EN 5:30p	4	5 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	6 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	7	8
9	10 BI 10:00a	11 CP 5:30p	12 TC 10:00a	13 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p	14	15 TC 10:00a
16	17 EN 5:30p	18	19 TC 10:00a	20 AL 12:20p	21	22
23	24	25 CP 5:30p	26 TC 10:00a	27 AL 12:20p	28	29
30	31					

June 2004

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2 TC 10:00a NR 6:00p	3 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	4	5
6	7 EN 5:30p	8 CP 5:30p	9 TC 10:00a	10 AL 12:20p ED 5:30p	11	12
13	14 BI 10:00a	15	16 TC 10:00a	17 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	18	19 TC 10:00a
20	21 EN 5:30p	22 CP 5:30p	23 TC 10:00a	24 AL 12:20p HO 5:15p	25	26
27	28	29	30 TC 10:00a			

Meeting Schedule & Calendar Abbreviations

AL	Anishinaabemowin Language Class Every Thursday 12:20 pm - 1:20 pm Saplings Room @ Casino Every Tuesday 5:30pm-7:00pm Advanced Language Class @ Training Ctr.
EN	Enrollment Commission Meeting: LRBOI Administrative Building Every first and third Monday of the month at 5:30 pm
CP	Cultural Preservation Committee Meeting: Bank Building, Dome Room 3rd Floor Every second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 5:15 pm
ED	Education Committee Meeting: LRBOI Administrative Building Every 2nd Thursday at 5:30 pm
EL	Elders Meeting: LRBOI Community Center First Saturday of the month 12:00 pm

NR	Natural Resources Commission Meeting: East Lake Office First Wednesday at 6:00 pm
TC	Tribal Council Meeting: Bank Building, Dome Room 3rd Floor Every Wednesday at 10:00 am, every third Saturday - 10:00 am in the Bank Building Dome Room, and every third Tuesday (minutes review) at 1:30pm in the Tribal Council Conference Room
WS	Warrior Society Meeting: LRBOI Community Center First Saturday of the month 10:00am
HO	Housing Commission Meeting: LRBOI Administrative Building Every Thursday 5:15pm
GA	Gaming Commission: Call for dates & directions Every other Saturday 9:00am
BI	Binojeeuk Commission Meeting: Bank Building, Tribal Council Conference Room, every second Monday 10:00am

Please note that meeting information is subject to change without prior notification. You should always call ahead to verify meeting schedules and agendas if you plan to attend.

DIRECT CONTACT PHONE NUMBERS

Ogema's Office	1-231-398-6823
Tribal Council	1-231-398-6845
• Elaine Porter	1-231-398-6833
• Pat Ruiter	1-231-398-6831
• Pamela Medahko	1-231-398-6849
• Steve Parsons	1-231-398-6830
• Brian Medacco	1-231-398-6828
• Janine Sam	1-231-398-6834
• Tammy Kleeman	1-231-398-6835
• Israel Stone	1-231-398-6807
• Lisa McCatty	1-231-398-6719
Health Clinic	1-231-723-8299
Toll-Free	1-888-382-8299
Job Hotline	1-866-556-5660
Language Hotline	1-877-789-0993
Tribal Court	1-231-398-3406

LRBOI TOLL-FREE 1-888-723-8288

Training & Development	1-231-398-9372
Wastewater & Utilities	1-231-723-2309
Warrior's Society	1-231-398-6720
Bedabin Receptionist	1-231-398-6604
Elder's Coordinator	1-231-398-6709
Enrollment Officer	1-231-398-6712
Commodities Department	1-231-398-6715
Currents News	1-231-398-6872
Natural Resources	1-231-723-1594
Little River Casino Resort	1-231-398-6833
Toll-Free	1-888-568-2244
Maintenance Department	1-231-723-7733
Housing Department	1-231-398-6734
Member's Assistance	1-231-398-6864
Public Safety, Administrative	1-231-398-3413
Public Safety, Non-Emergency	
Tribal Officer Response	1-231-723-6241

ADDRESSES

Administration Building 1762 US 31 South Manistee, MI 49660 Just South of K-Mart Plaza	Natural Resources 159 Brickyard Road Manistee, MI 49660 Big Blue off M-55
Health Clinic 310 9th Street Manistee, MI 49660 Above Child Care Center	Tribal Court 3031 Domres Road Manistee, MI 49660 In Newland Bldg
Little River Casino Resort 2700 Orchard Highway Manistee, MI 49660 Corner of M-22 & US-31	Government Offices 375 River Street Manistee, MI 49660 In National Bank Bldg
Community Center 1762 US 31 South Manistee, MI 49660 Just South of K-Mart Plaza	Public Safety 3031 Domres Road Manistee, MI 49660 In Newland Bldg

No Racinos

continued from front page

challenges the gaming rights of Native American Tribes.

Michigan's Indian Tribes pay and donate millions of dollars to the State and local communities each year. If this bill passes those contributions will decrease, and many local schools and public service departments will suffer. Consider this information* given to the media at the Lansing press conference:

- 2,000 jobs lost in and adjacent to Senator Jason Allen's 37th district.
- More than \$100 million in lost revenues.
- More than \$50 million in lost payroll
- \$1.5 million in lost 2-percent payments.

The media package also contained these interesting statements*: Benefits to Agriculture are a Fable. Calling the legislation "Agricultural Enhancement" is exploitation of a serious Michigan issue. The claim of a \$1.2 billion impact from horse tracks is a fable:

- Based on a gross exaggeration of the number of horses involved.



Schools Against House Bills 4609-4611

Speaker Steve Parsons talks with Kennedy Elementary Principal Bob Olson who spoke in Lansing about the importance of support from Tribes for schools and other community needs.

of crops, livestock, land, and hardworking people—racehorses are a tiny segment of that total.

- The legislation is a give-away to track owners, particularly Magna, a Canadian company that has only owned a track in Michigan since the year 2000.

In addition, three separate marketing groups have polled Michigan voters about the racino bill. Here are the results*:

Mitchell Research & Communications

- 77% Against, 61% Strongly Against

Marketing Resource Group Poll

- 66% opposed
- 55% strongly opposed
- Opposition was strongest in Northern Michigan

The Michigan Chronicle Poll

- 66% opposed
- 56% strongly opposed

After considering these statistics it's not hard to see

why the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians and other Michigan Tribes have joined to take a strong stand against this bill. It's the hope of those who oppose it that voters will contact their governmental officials throughout Michigan to say NO to racinos too.

**2004 statistics are from Michigan Consultants 517-482-0790.*



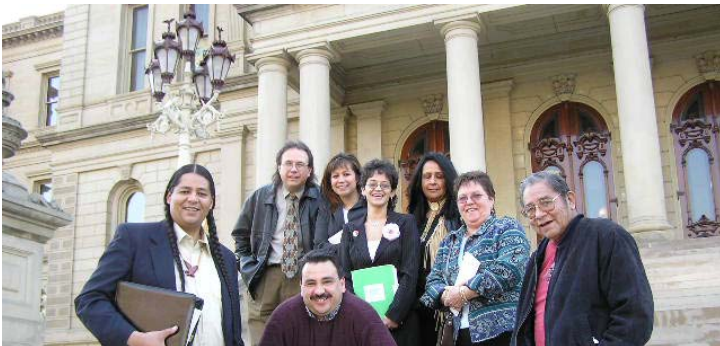
Seriously Speaking

Ogema Sprague gives a television interview at the press conference in Traverse City.

- Actual number perhaps 1/10th of what is claimed.

• Track owners have been pushing the legislation for many years—they simply have seized on the woes of the state budget and agriculture.

- Agriculture is a key to the Michigan economy, but is made up



A Strong Showing on the Capitol Steps

People who attended both meetings, from left: Ogema Lee Sprague, Speaker Steve Parsons, Tribal Assistant Manager Lynn Moore, Councilwomen Tammy Kleeman, Pamela Medahko, and Pat Ruiter, Tribal Elder Roger Sprague and Councilman Brian Medacco, in center.

In Touch

From Melissa Zelenak



SPRING MEMBERSHIP MEETING POTLUCK COOKING CONTEST

This years Spring Membership Meeting promises even more fun with a Cooking Contest for the members who bring their potluck dishes in.

Prizes will be awarded for these categories:

Green Salads	Vegetable Dishes
Pasta Salads	Soups/Sauces/Dips
Pies	Cakes
Other Desserts	Fry Bread

Each food entry will have a number that members can vote on. Whichever food entries get the most votes will win the prizes. Good luck everyone!

LITTLE RIVER LADIES LUNCHEON

The next luncheon on May 3rd will include a brief introduction to the ways Native Americans might utilize essential oils and aromatherapy techniques. The menu for the day will be Chili & Cornbread so come on down and enjoy the fun. We meet at the LRBOI Community Center from 12-1pm. To be on the email reminder list or to get more information contact Melissa at melissa111165@yahoo.com

RACINO ISSUE

You might not think that MI House Bills 4609-4611, a.k.a. the Agricultural Enhancement Bill is a big issue if you don't live in Michigan but it really is huge and will be bad news for **all** kinds of people if it passes. Just one upsetting point about the bill package is that it's promoted as something it isn't, not to mention the fact that promises are on the verge of being broken again when it comes to Indian gaming rights. Please pay close attention to this issue and **make the effort to contact** Senators, Congress people and Representatives. Tell them how you feel about Northern Michigan losing so many jobs and communities losing much needed 2% monies. Also let them know what you think about trying to pass something off to Native American voters without them knowing the true facts. Look for information about Native Americans and voting in future issues of Currents.

DISCOUNTS AT JACKPINE

Tribal members can now receive a discount on services and goods purchased at Jackpine, Inc., the office supply/computer store/copying place in Manistee and Ludington. All you have to do is fill out an application and give your Tribal ID number. For more information contact the LRBOI Purchasing Department.

DEDICATIONS & SUBMISSIONS

It's wonderful that we're getting so many new submissions. Please be sure to let Currents know of your birthday, anniversary, etc. 30 days BEFORE it happens so we're sure to get it in the paper for you.

CLOSING THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

"Either you decide to stay in the shallow end of the pool or you go out in the ocean."

- Christopher Reeve



Little River Currents

Dedications & Announcements

Ziisbaakdaki giizis
Syrup Moon
Apr/May 2004 Vol. 1 Issue 4

***If you are interested in
serving on a Commission,
Committee or Board, please
mail a letter of interest to:
Office of the Ogema
375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660***

Welcome Aiyana Marie White
First Grandbaby of Shirley &
Chuck Sikorkski-Dupont.
Born March 21
7lbs 3 ozs, 20"

HAPPY BELATED BIRTHDAY

Alice Schneider
March 9th
Love, Your Family

**Happy
Easter**

**The Members Assistance
Department is accepting
applications for the
Well and Septic Program.**

The Well and Septic is an Indian Health Services (IHS) funded program. This program promotes health and safety for our tribal members by providing new or renovated sanitation facilities (Well and Septic). This program is available in the nine county service areas.

Eligibility Requirements

- Enrolled member of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians.
- Reside in the nine county service areas.
- Home must be the primary residence of applicant.
- Ownership of home/site must be in the tribal member's name.

Assistance is seasonal and limited to available funding. To request an application please call our office at 231-723-8288 or toll free 888-723-8288 ext 6864.

**LRBOI JOB
HOTLINE
1-866-556-5660**

Welcome Marcus Benjamin Hamilton
Born February 23, 2004
8lbs 5 ozs, 20"

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MIKE MOORE!
APRIL 24TH
FROM YOUR FAMILY UP NORTH



Who's That New Baby?
It's Nimkiins Neekig
Stephen Sprague, son of
Lee Sprague & Janine
Sam. Born Feb. 13, 2004.
Congratulations parents,
and welcome
Little Thunder!

Happy Belated Birthday
Tom Shepard, March 10th
Love, Your Family



Good Luck Monica!
We'll Miss You!
From everyone at your
Going Away Luncheon

Happy Birthday
Dennis King
From Your Family

Happy Belated Birthday
Dakota Hawk Renner
Love Yvonne & John & Gerald

Israel Stone HAPPY BIRTHDAY
April 10th

Happy Birthday Dennis King
Love Ya SIS

Happy Birthday
April 19th to
Tina Marshall &
May 20th
Virgina
Lenartowicz!



Happy Birthday
Uncle Dennis
From Nicole

HAPPY APRIL BIRTHDAY
TO THESE
TRIBAL EMPLOYEES

2nd Steve Lewis
6th Teresa Romero
8th Nita Guenthardt
9th Valerie Chandler
12th Denise Koon
18th Philip Webber
19th Martha Kase
28th Misty Woodward

**Kchii Megwetch to Katie Glocheski
for helping the 2004 Regalia class!**



ATTENTION TRIBAL VETERANS

In order for you to be eligible for the Veterans Memorial I need a copy of your 214's or discharge papers. Work for the Memorial will be starting this Spring and this is the last call to turn your paperwork in and get on the Memorial with your fellow Veterans.

Warrior Society meetings are the first Saturday of the month at 10:00am. Our office is in the LRBOI Administration Building on US-31. Entry is on the north side of the building.

We will be planning the Veterans Memorial at future meetings and discussing other important issues. Also for those of you who have already sent your discharge copies (or are going to) please send me your hat size for your Red Beret.

Please join us at the meetings, we need your input.

Al Medacco

Return Service Requested

Little River Band of
Ottawa Indians
375 River Street
Manistee, MI 49660



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